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INDONESIA

Indonesia, the fifth most populous country in the world and the largest nation in Southeast Asia, has a population of around 180 million. Its "New Order" Government came to power in 1966 after an abortive Communist Party-backed coup. Authority is concentrated in a small group of retired and active-duty military officers and civilian technocrats under the leadership of President Soeharto. A partly elected, partly appointed Parliament serves as a forum for consultation on and promulgation of legislation proposed by the executive branch. In reaction to the legacy of political and economic turmoil from the pre-1966 Sukarno days, the Government has established priorities of stability, economic development, and social equity. It has achieved some successes in each area, particularly in the rural sector; nevertheless, efforts to achieve wider distribution of economic benefits have yet to bridge the enormous disparities in wealth and access to economic advantages that development has brought. The Government has effectively reduced religious tensions by encouraging legally recognized religions to coexist in peace.

Faced with a diversity of ethnic, social, linguistic, and religious groups, Indonesian governments have sought to create a unique national identity and develop a governing system which can accommodate this diversity while assuring internal security and strengthening national unity. In meeting this challenge, the Soeharto Government has made "Pancasila" the national social and political ideology and the centerpiece of its political program. Pancasila, a centrist and eclectic formulation, consists of five principles: belief in one supreme god, belief in a just and civilized humanity, Indonesian national unity, democracy, and social justice. To accommodate the country's diversity, the Government emphasizes social harmony and the traditional Indonesian process of consultation and consensus as a major element in decisionmaking.

Indonesia's mixed economy involves the State in nearly all sectors. Last year's collapse in world oil prices, combined with only modest growth in nonoil sectors of the economy kept real gross domestic product growth at an estimated 3 percent in 1987, a level at which too few new jobs are created for the 2 million new workers who enter the workforce yearly. Ethnic Chinese in Indonesia are heavily represented in the small but economically important modern private sector, but they continue to face official discrimination in certain areas such as government employment.

In 1987 the Government continued efforts to consolidate its control, to promote development, and to improve living standards in East Timor. Periodic skirmishes between Fretilin guerrillas and the army occurred with unknown but relatively small numbers of casualties on both sides. The Government continued to permit selective access to the province, primarily through escorted diplomatic visits.

In Irian Jaya, Organization for a Free Papua (OPM) rebels continued isolated acts of violence, against both fellow Irianese villagers and Indonesian Government forces. The Government of Indonesia reported that several hundred Irianese who had fled to Papua New Guinea earlier returned to Irian Jaya.

In 1987, though human rights abuses continued, modest improvements were made in several areas. These included the

release from detention of many East Timorese previously suspected of supporting a small-scale insurgency. On the negative side, reports continued of police abuse of prisoners in some cases leading to death, a policy of "shooting to wound" suspected criminals in Medan, allegations of disappearances, and restrictions on the freedoms of the press and of movement. Nationwide general elections in April, while more peaceful and open than any in the past 15 years, were characterized by tight restrictions on campaigning and some reports of fraud and intimidation of voters.

RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Section 1 Respect for the Integrity of the Person, Including Freedom from:

a. Political Killing

In 1987 there were no reports of alleged "mysterious killings" or summary executions of suspected criminals, which were prevalent from 1982 to 1985. In Medan the local governor recently reaffirmed a policy of "shooting to wound" criminal suspects, which has in many cases resulted in crippling injuries.

In 1987 some reports, which could not be independently verified, claimed political killings in Irian Jaya and East Timor associated with the small-scale rebellions in both provinces.

b. Disappearance

Observers believe the number of disappearances is very small, but no exact figures are available. Disappearances in 1987 in East Timor and Irian Jaya are widely believed to be at the hands of security or military authorities operating under special legal provisions exempting them from the criminal code. Reports are often unspecific and virtually impossible to confirm as the Government rarely if ever responds to inquiries concerning disappearances. One international human rights group reported in March 1987 that 10 Timorese previously believed to have disappeared were found alive. Other unconfirmed reports claim several Timorese disappeared in East Timor in the past year. They are in addition to several hundred disappearances in past years in that province which have never been solved. Regularized International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) access to prisons in East Timor and elsewhere in Indonesia has helped to locate some missing persons.

c. Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

While the Government officially does not not condone torture and mistreatment, there are frequent reports that they occur. In 1987 there was at least one instance in which the Government disciplined police or security personnel for engaging in police brutality. Standard police treatment of detainees, even in minor incidents, often results in physical abuse. One international human rights group's reports cite torture of suspected rebel sympathizers in East Timor at the hands of military forces. A policy of "shoot-to-wound" practiced against alleged criminals allegedly attempting to elude arrest, instituted in North Sumatra in 1985, continued throughout 1987. According to local press reports of several

such incidents each month, all were allegedly shot in the legs, several repeatedly. Occasionally victims have died from their wounds.

d. Arbitrary Arrest, Detention, Exile, or Forced Labor

While December 1981 Criminal Procedures Code (KUHAP) contains protections against arbitrary arrest and detention and specifies the right of prisoners to legal counsel and notification of family, in practice these safeguards frequently are not respected. Emergency security provisions permit exceptions under which arrests and detentions may be made by the Command for the Restoration of Security and Order (KOPKAMTIB). The provisions of KUHAP are honored more often in urban areas than in small towns or remote provinces. The authorities are known to make arrests for intimidation or to inhibit activities they do not wish to take place. Such arrests may have little or no legal basis, but there are no legal mechanisms for redress of grievances.

Indonesian law does not provide for the right of habeas corpus or its equivalent. KOPKAMTIB has wide powers to detain and interrogate persons thought to endanger national security. These special powers supersede the criminal code provisions and apply particularly to what KOPKAMTIB considers cases of suspected subversion, sabotage, secession, or corruption. Arrests or detentions made under these powers are rarely, if ever, made public. Persons arrested and held under KOPKAMTIB provisions have no legal right to protection or legal aid.

Precise numbers of persons detained without trial are unavailable. Human rights observers believe there may be as many as 500 throughout Indonesia. In 1987 the last remaining Timorese held on Atauro Island for suspected support of Fretilin were returned to their villages, where they remain under the close supervision of local authorities. Other Timorese exiled from their villages several years ago were permitted to return to their original homes in 1987. No reports charge the use of forced labor in Indonesia in recent years.

e. Denial of Fair Public Trial

As government employees, judges in Indonesia come under the jurisdiction of the executive branch, which greatly affects the independence of the judiciary. The Minister of Justice announced in 1987 that local prosecutors will have authority in their district to discipline attorneys whose behavior is deemed inappropriate. Corruption also permeates the Indonesian legal system. In criminal proceedings, defendants are frequently able to buy their way out of prosecution at various stages of the proceedings. In civil cases, court decisions are sometimes influenced by the payment of bribes. In response to these abuses, the Government from time to time has taken action against particularly flagrant offenders, but by and large these practices continue unchecked.

In cases involving what could be defined broadly as "security" issues, particularly instances in which persons are being tried under the subversion provisions of 1963, the accused are rarely, if ever, found innocent. In all such security-related cases, it is widely believed the Government will ensure conviction irrespective of the evidence presented in court; such convictions are aided by the court's ability to restrict evidence presented by the defence. Although the Government

has not announced data on the number of persons serving sentences for subversion, one reliable estimate suggests there may be several hundred. Several subversion trials took place in 1987, most related to alleged Muslim extremist activity. The accused were always found guilty.

As a result of increasing crime rates and shortages of judicial personnel, trials are frequently delayed. A three-judge panel conducts trials, hearing evidence, deciding guilt or innocence, and assessing punishment. Although the right of appeal is not absolute, it is observed in most cases. Initial judgments are rarely reversed, although sentences are occasionally reduced. Most court sessions are open to the public, and most defendants, if they can pay, have access to counsel. If destitute, defendants can find private legal help such as that provided by the Legal Aid Institute, but no direct system exists for public funding of court-appointed attorneys for those unable to afford legal assistance.

In May the Government revoked for 1 year the lawyer's license of well-known human rights activist Adnan Buyung Nasution for alleged contempt of court during the 1985-86 trial of retired General H.R. Dharsono. The Government acknowledges that there was no contempt of court law at the time, but based its actions on law 2 of 1986 which empowers the Minister of Justice to discipline members of the legal profession.

f. Arbitrary Interference with Privacy, Family, Home, or Correspondence

Judicial warrants for searches are required except for cases involving suspected subversion, economic crimes, and corruption. However, forced or surreptitious entry by security agencies occurs periodically, especially in East Timor. Both local and international telephone calls are believed to be monitored selectively by government security agencies. Although correspondence generally is not monitored, letter mail to and from East Timor is subject to official scrutiny. Telephone communication to and from East Timor requires special government approval.

The import of foreign publications and video tapes, which must be reviewed by government censors, requires a permit. Some foreign newspapers and magazines, especially from Australia, cannot be imported. The importation of Communist publications is prohibited. Excepting one quasi-official daily newspaper which uses Chinese characters and claims a circulation of over 100,000, Chinese-language publications can neither be imported nor produced domestically. Chinese characters are routinely blotted out of foreign news photos and advertising. No laws prohibit speaking Chinese, but the Government lays heavy stress on the learning and use of the national language, Bahasa Indonesia, to promote national unity.

Section 2 Respect for Civil Liberties, Including:

a. Freedom of Speech and Press

There are significant restrictions on freedom of speech and press. The Constitution gives Parliament the authority to legislate these restrictions. In recent years, Parliament has helped create a body of law delimiting the rights of individuals and of the Government. In the absence of implementing regulations for many of these laws, different

government agencies frequently interpret them as they choose. The result is that these agencies have considerable discretionary authority in the field of civil liberties, e.g., freedom of the press and speech. Governmental concern about public statements or publications which could be perceived as critical of the Government, and therefore threatening to the nation's stability, is a major factor inhibiting the exercise of free speech and press. Opposition groups are generally free to meet privately and formulate views, but they are inhibited from disseminating them publicly because of media reluctance to risk official disapproval or because of informal government instructions not to publish the opinions of or news about prominent opposition figures. As in past years, authorities provided general topic guidelines to Muslim speakers during the Muslim holidays, when preachers addressed large gatherings. In a few instances, preachers who went beyond these guidelines were arrested.

The general lack of specific, clear guidelines on what is permissible has generated a significant degree of self-censorship both in public speaking and in the press. School faculties sometimes refrain from producing materials, including dissertations, which they believe might provoke government displeasure. Publishers also are unwilling to accept manuscripts dealing with controversial issues. Foreign books critical of the Government or dealing with sensitive topics, such as human rights, similarly are avoided by importers. Foreign periodicals, readily available in Indonesia, are scrupulously censored by their private importers in order to avoid government confiscation of the materials. With few exceptions this self-censorship is thorough and effectively responds to government concerns.

The press is largely privately owned. While espousing a "free" press, the Government expects the media to be "responsible" by supporting national economic development goals and domestic stability. The Government closely monitors the media for material it finds unacceptable. In such instances, editors or journalists routinely receive oral instructions from government officials about news which cannot be reported. Articles and editorials do address sensitive issues, however, and journalists sometimes have wide latitude within the vaguely defined limitations.

Nonetheless very real limits exist. In June 1987 the Government closed down a relatively new and bold daily, Prioritas, for speculative reports which the Government said could cause unrest. Other journals received oral warnings to avoid printing "speculative" articles which could "create uncertainty and confusion among the public." The Government permitted Suara Pembaruan, the successor to Sinar Harapan, a Jakarta daily banned in 1986, to begin publishing with much of the same staff as the earlier paper.

The Government established highly stringent regulations for foreign correspondents wishing to report on the general election campaign in 1987. Visas for correspondents to cover the campaigns were either late in coming or, in some instances, refused. In the spring of 1987, the Government declined to issue a visa to a New York Times correspondent. In mid-1987 the Government refused to renew the residence visas for two correspondents of the Far Eastern Economic Review, the third year in a row that that journal's correspondents have not been able to remain in Indonesia. One Australian journalist was

permitted into the country, the first since Australian journalists were banned in April 1986.

The Attorney General banned several books, both foreign and Indonesian. A single government-operated television network broadcasts, although television signals from neighboring countries are received in some parts of Indonesia. The more than 400 private radio stations may use only government-provided programs for news.

b. Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and Association

Regional and national meetings of virtually all organizations must have government permission, and local jurisdictions often require prior approval for smaller gatherings as well. While such approval is usually granted, local authorities can and do withhold permission. Student gatherings are frequently the target of such disapprovals. In East Timor the local Government usually authorizes public assembly for social and ceremonial events and, as long as there is no perceived security risk, grants political parties permission to meet publicly.

The 1985 "social organizations" law (known as the "Ormas Law"), which requires all organizations, including religious orders and associations, to adhere to the state ideology of Pancasila, came into force in 1987. The law empowers the Government, with the approval of the Supreme Court, to disband any organization it believes to be acting against the tenets of Pancasila. The Government took no such actions in 1987. The law stipulates that government approval is required before any organization can accept funding from foreign donors.

Indonesian workers are organized in a single national body, the All-Indonesia Workers Federation (SPSI). It has a total membership of about 3 million out of some 15 million persons employed in the industrial sector. The total work force is around 70 million. The SPSI is the only trade union body legally permitted in Indonesia, and all organized workers must belong to it. The Government established this organization in 1985 as a replacement for the preceding quasi-independent national labor federation (FBSI). Political activity by the SPSI is forbidden. It is not permitted to organize civil servants or workers in government-owned enterprises nor in major sectors of the economy declared by the Government to be vital, such as air transportation and oil. However, some professional organizations, such as those for teachers, do act as unions in some respects. Although Indonesia is a party to a number of International Labor Organization (ILO) conventions on the right to organize and bargain collectively and on forced labor, government officials have made it clear that Indonesia's obligations under these conventions will not be allowed to interfere with Pancasila labor relations, which emphasize consultation among the parties and the avoidance of confrontation.

Restrictions on the SPSI's autonomy include the imposition of government appointees in many of its positions; pressure on its senior officials to be active members of the government-sponsored Golkar (see Section 3); and extensive government intervention in the public sector and in 21 companies deemed vital to national well-being. A ministerial decree of October 30, 1986, put into effect new guidance on the formation of unions in private sector workplaces. This guidance spelled out with greater specificity how organizing at the plant level

is initiated, criteria for establishing the qualifications of union officers, and procedures and safeguards for union elections. It is now explicitly forbidden to prejudice or to harass any employee because of his union membership. Strikes in the private sector are permitted by law, though officially discouraged. Notification to the Government of a strike call is required, but not prior government approval. Some 90,000 man-hours were lost through strike action in the first half of 1986. In a series of significant strikes during 1987, no punitive action was taken against striking workers.

The SPSI provides representation in the Workers' Delegation to the International Labor Organization (ILO).

c. Freedom of Religion

The constitutional guarantees of religious freedom apply only to those religions recognized by the State--Islam, Buddhism, Christianity, and Hinduism. Although the Indonesian population is overwhelmingly Muslim, the practice and teaching of the other recognized faiths are permitted. A plethora of mystical and folk religions and sects also exists; a number of these have been banned, affecting perhaps 20,000 adherents, while government leaders actually encourage others. While the Government tolerates private practice of banned religions, local authorities occasionally harass adherents of such groups. The legal requirement to accept Pancasila as governing ideology extends to all religious, as well as secular, organizations.

A 1972 letter of the Supreme Prosecutor reiterated a presidential decree of 1962 banning membership in Jehovah's Witnesses and the Baha'i Faith. From time to time authorities harass or discriminate against Baha'is for their religious beliefs, and several have been strongly pressured to convert to Islam. Because the first tenet of Pancasila specifies belief in a supreme being, atheism is forbidden. Some animists in remote parts of Indonesia have reportedly been pressured to convert to Islam or Christianity to fulfill the requirement of belief in a supreme being. No legal bars forbid religious conversion, and conversions between faiths do occur. However, proselytizing in heavily Islamic areas is seen as potentially disruptive and is discouraged. The Government restricts activities of foreign missionaries, some of whom face difficulty in obtaining or renewing visas or residence permits, to encourage the employment of Indonesian citizens. Their work is also subject to the funding stipulations of the Ormas Law discussed above. In other areas, missionary activities are relatively unimpeded and in fact are welcomed in remoter districts, where government resources in fields such as education and health are insufficient.

Official holidays include Christian, Hindu, and Buddhist, as well as Muslim holy days. Indonesian Muslims, Christians, and Buddhists maintain active links with coreligionists inside and outside Indonesia. Travel to religious gatherings is permitted. Hajj trips to Mecca are available only through government-organized and priced tours. The Government permits a set number of pilgrims to make the hajj annually.

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d. Freedom of Movement Within the Country, Foreign Travel, Emigration, and Repatriation

There are some restrictions on movement within Indonesia. The Government requires permits to change residence in certain areas, primarily to control the further shift of population from rural to urban locations. Since 1958-59, noncitizen ethnic Chinese have been denied the right to live in rural areas of Java. Restrictions exist on movement to and within East Timor and within parts of Irian Jaya. The Government has relocated many rural East Timorese living in the central and eastern parts of the province since 1979 to isolate them from Fretilin rebels and, according to the Government, to facilitate their access to health, education, and other government services. Most Timorese require permission to travel outside their home districts (Kecamatan). In some areas of East Timor residents may not farm beyond their immediate village area, and are restricted to their village itself during military operations in the area.

Former political detainees associated with the abortive 1965 coup attempt are required to notify authorities of their movements, may not change their place of residence without official permission, and have restrictions placed on their employment. Members or alleged supporters of the Communist Party of Indonesia (PKI) outside Indonesia have been allowed to return only on a case-by-case basis. The Government has tried to keep track of all of the 2.5 million former members of the PKI and some 20 million members of its front groups.

The Government periodically restricts foreign travel of domestic critics and others in disfavor. Some 5,000 Indonesians currently are not permitted to leave the country. This number includes critics of the Government, those arrested in the student riots of 1974, and others. However, other critics of the Government are free to travel abroad, and a person banned at one time may be permitted to travel subsequently. Well-known attorney and human rights activist Mulya Lubis received a passport in February, after having been refused permission to travel abroad for 2 years. Students do not need government permission to go abroad to study. A rp. 250,000 ($150) departure tax, while instituted as a means to restrict travel abroad and thereby save foreign exchange, has the effect of limiting freedom of foreign travel.

The Government has apparently taken no further action on its plan to move several thousand "illegal immigrants" to the island of Sumba. None has been moved to date. Most of these are Chinese who left Indonesia for China in the 1950's and 1960's. They subsequently returned to Indonesia but are considered by the Indonesian Government to have reentered illegally.

Indonesia has given first asylum to over 100,500 Indochinese refugees since 1975. The Indochinese refugee population stood at 2,300 at the end of 1987. The United Nations High Commission for refugees in Jakarta has documented that local Indonesian government authorities several times in 1987 pushed refugee boats away from Indonesian territory. Central government authorities have denied such "push-offs" took place and reconfirmed Indonesia's policy of asylum. Observers believe, however, that "push offs" continue to take place.

No reports in 1987 cited large numbers of residents of the province of Irian Jaya crossing into Papua New Guinea.

Several hundred Irianese who had crossed into Papua New Guinea in past years returned to Irian Jaya voluntarily.

Section 3 Respect for Political Rights: The Right of Citizens to Change Their Government

The Government's authority is largely concentrated in the hands of a small group of active-duty and retired military officers and civilian technocrats led by President Soeharto. This system ensures the continued preeminence of the military in all fields of governmental activity. The Parliament, political parties, and the general public have little ability to influence government decisions or to change the system or its leadership.

Parliament considers laws presented to it by government departments and agencies but does not draft laws on its own. The Government seeks to resolve any potential parliamentary concerns before the bills are officially presented. Parliament can and does change the text and occasionally the intent of bills it reviews. Bills of major significance are often passed with little or no alteration.

A 1975 law allows three political parties. One of these is made up of four former Muslim political parties, and another of former nationalist and Christian parties. Party leaders are approved or named by the Government, and party activities are closely scrutinized and often guided by government authorities. These factors weaken the parties' election prospects and diminish their ability to represent effectively their constituents' concerns to the Government. The third, Golkar, is a longstanding, government-sponsored organization of functional groups which serves a role similar to that of a political party. The two parties and Golkar are prohibited from organizing and operating officially below the district level except during election campaigns. This system gives Golkar an advantage, since its civil service members have constant access to small towns and villages because of their official duties. In the 1987 general election, Golkar won 73 percent of the vote.

Elections for Parliament, held every 5 years, took place on April 23, 1987. All adult citizens, except active-duty members of the armed forces and convicted criminals serving prison sentences, are eligible to vote. Voters cast ballots for party lists of candidates for national, district, and local assemblies. Voting is not mandatory, but strong social pressures ensure participation. Protest votes take the form of blank or deliberately spoiled ballots. All civil servants and employees of government-owned institutions, such as the large state banks, and their families, must join Golkar. In addition, students in public schools and universities, as well as the general public, are strongly urged to support Golkar. All government employees are expected to vote for Golkar. Polls are set up outside government offices, government-owned institutions, and schools, and civil servants and students are expected to vote at their place of employment rather than in their home neighborhood. The two political parties formally complained of polling irregularities including multiple voting by Golkar supporters, incorrect vote tallies, and obstacles to voting faced by non-Golkar supporters. Many observers reported coercion or intimidation, especially in government organizations, to ensure votes were cast for Golkar. The Government has not announced its response to or investigation of claims of voting irregularities.

All candidates for election were required to pass rigorous government scrutiny of their suitability, and many proposed candidates were dropped from the final approved list. Golkar and the two parties headed their candidates list with "votegetters," popular or well-known figures who agreed to be candidates to attract votes, but who, should they be elected, would not serve but turn their seat over to the next candidate on the list. While the public is aware of this system, at no time were votegetters identified to enable voters to determine who in fact might represent them in a certain district.

In line with changes in the election law in 1984, the Government restricted campaigning. Campaign speeches required prior government approval, and rallies took place at government-approved times and places.

Under the 1985 election law, the newly elected Parliament consists of 500 members, 400 elected in April 1987, and 100 appointed by the Government from the armed forces. The People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) elects the President. It consists of Parliament plus 500 other members appointed by the President and regional governments. The MPR began its new session October 1, 1987, to promulgate the political, economic, and social guidelines for the coming 5 years and to elect the President and Vice President in March 1988.

The PKI, the former Socialist Party (PSI), and a formerly powerful Muslim party, Masyumi, linked with separatist rebellions in the late 1950's, are specifically banned. With rare exceptions, members of the first and many leaders of the last are not allowed to run for office or to be active politically. However, most former PKI detainees were permitted to vote in the April national elections.

Section 4 Governmental Attitude Regarding International and Nongovernmental Investigation of Alleged Violations of Human Rights

The Government considers outside investigations of alleged human rights violations to be interference in its internal affairs. Amnesty International representatives, for example, have been refused access to Indonesia. Similarly, Asia Watch and other international human rights groups have been denied permission to visit. No local chapter of Amnesty International exists, although individual citizens may have membership. The Government is hostile toward citizens who maintain close ties with foreign human rights organizations. Local human rights activists complain that the Government uses harassment, press censorship, financial controls, and other forms of intimidation to suppress meaningful human rights activities.

Under a 1985 agreement with the Government, the ICRC conducts regular visits to persons jailed in connection with events in East Timor; provides medical and food aid to those persons returned to the main island after having been held on Atauro; carries out medical-nutritional surveys in vulnerable villages in East Timor; and reunites divided families in East Timor and abroad (mainly Portugal). In addition, the ICRC is permitted to visit prisoners convicted of participation in the 1965 PKI-backed attempted coup.

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Section 5 Discrimination Based on Race, Sex, Religion, Language, or Social Status

Some women enjoy a high degree of economic and social freedom. Women occupy important midlevel positions in the civil service, educational institutions, labor unions, the military, the professions, and private business and the 1983 Cabinet included two women. However although legislation guarantees women equal treatment, women seldom receive equal pay for equal work. In addition to a government-sponsored women's organization in which membership and participation are mandatory, several voluntary, private groups work to advance women's legal, economic, and political rights. Chief among these is KOWANI (Congress of Indonesian Women), an umbrella organization for some 55 women's groups.

Strong official and informal discrimination affects people of Chinese ancestry resident in Indonesia. Ethnic Chinese are pressured to take Indonesian names. While encouraged to become citizens, some Chinese find legal avenues to citizenship blocked or are discouraged by the time-consuming and expensive task of obtaining citizenship documents. Chinese who have been unable to obtain Indonesian citizenship can lose their right to residence should they be abroad for a period of more than 3 months. Government regulations prohibit the operation of all-Chinese schools and institutions of higher learning, teaching in Chinese languages, the formation of exclusively Chinese cultural groups or trade associations, and the use of Chinese characters on signboards or in publications. A 1979 State Intelligence Coordinating Board letter bans Chinese-language courses by private institutions. However, social and religious groups which are, in effect, all-Chinese are not proscribed and do exist.

CONDITIONS OF LABOR

New regulations published in February 1987 provide protection for children between the ages of 7 and 14, who often must work to support themselves and their families. The workday for these children is limited to 4 hours per day, and their employers are required to see that the children are attending school. The Basic Labor Law of 1948 established an 8-hour day, 48-hour week, 1 rest day per week, and a definite vacation period. An extensive body of labor law and ministerial regulations provide for minimum standards of industrial health and safety, but they are not enforced effectively. Indonesian law provides that the Department of Manpower office in each region shall, at regular intervals, establish a minimum wage for its particular region. The range of regional minimum wages rose by an average of 13 percent from 1985 to 1986. The Department of Manpower and the Central Statistical Office also report for each region a minimum physical needs figure.

Wages of many workers in the modern sector exceed minimum wage figures, and the Government and labor unions state they are working to raise minimum wages to meet minimum physical needs' figures. Observance of the minimum wage regulations varies from sector to sector and region to region. Reliable figures on the total compliance situation do not exist.